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## News Release

## PHILADELPHIA ICE DEPORTS 144 CRIMINALS

Crimes included Homicide, Sexual Assault, Extortion and Drug Smuggling

Philadelphia—Over the past four weeks U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has deported 144 criminal aliens from 27 different nations. The individuals removed had convictions ranging from homicide to drug dealing and can no longer prey on residents of the Pennsylvania and New York areas. The deportation operations also included 96 non-criminals who were in the United States illegally.

Thomas Decker of the Philadelphia office of Detention and Removal pointed to Philip Nishit, an Indian national. He was deported in late May following a conviction of sodomy involving a minor child. "This individual entered the United States as a legal immigrant and then chose to assault a 12 year old child," Decker said. "Not only did Nishit throw away a chance at a new life in a country that welcomed him with open arms, but he committed a heinous crime against a child."

Also removed was a native of Tunisia convicted for attempting to force a mentally disabled woman to have sex with him. A citizen of Peru was removed following a conviction for stalking an elderly woman. The individual was also a suspect in the stalking of other elderly women near where he lived. Other individuals were removed for crimes such as homicide, heroin and cocaine smuggling, fraud, weapons offenses, sexual assault, prostitution, and extortion.

Individuals were removed to 27 different countries including Ireland, Mexico, Jamaica, Guatemala, Columbia, Ukrain, Brazil, St. Vincent-Grenadies, Tunisia, El Salvador, Liberia, Guyana, Trinidad, Senegal, Poland, Germany, Japan, Russia, Honduras, Pakistan, Panama, Ecuador, Philippines, Turkey, Indonesia, Dominican Republic and Tunisia.

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Since the beginning of fiscal 2005 Philadelphia detention officers have removed 1,544 criminals and 374 non-criminals. Nationally, ICE has removed 75,500 aliens including more than 45,000 criminals. "Deportation Officers in the Philadelphia office are committed to protecting our communities by removing individuals who have a history of violence, drug smuggling and drug abuse and serious sexual crimes," Decker said.

## # ICE #

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security, responsible for the enforcement of border, economic, infrastructure and transportation security laws. ICE seeks to prevent acts of terrorism by targeting the people, money and materials that support terrorist and criminal activities.